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ABSTRACT

The 1970s brought numerous changes, including the realization that theories of change were insufficient. This text contains both core strategies for affecting change and instructions on using specific tools for change efforts in organizations and communities. The text draws concepts from psychology, sociology, anthropology, and new methods of working with ontological and narrative concepts to demonstrate how to produce intentional change in society. It purports to lay the groundwork for how people can resolve the circumstances of everyday life. The theory incorporates four realities--unitary, sensory, mythic, social--and also draws on two great myths that have been used in numerous cultures over the past millennia: revitalization and renaissance. The text explores the dialectics of change, including paths of resolution and counterinvention, and the modes of change and methods that influence these modes. Paths of resolution and such topics as contingencies in systems change, site selection, initiation, rites of employment, systems analysis, pluralistic development, and contradictions inherent in the great leap forward are also discussed. Characteristics of leaders, followers, and culture are carefully detailed, followed by a discussion of how each individual's meta-praxis can achieve change. (Includes an index and approximately 135 references.) (RJM)

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